



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2023

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 115

TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2023

(The Questions and Answers Paper published on Monday to Friday of each week will contain, by number and title, all questions to which answers have been received the previous day and any new questions asked that day. Consequently, the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered.)

Notice given on date shown.

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 98 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 99 (Including Question Nos 1253 to 1258)	17 October 2023
Q & A No. 100 (Including Question Nos 1259 to 1271)	18 October 2023
Q & A No. 101 (Including Question Nos 1272 to 1276)	19 October 2023
Q & A No. 102 (Including Question Nos 1277 to 1283)	20 October 2023
Q & A No. 103 (Including Question Nos 1284 to 1326)	23 October 2023
Q & A No. 104 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 105 (Including Question Nos 1327 to 1332)	24 October 2023
Q & A No. 106 (Including Question Nos 1333 to 1338)	25 October 2023
Q & A No. 107 (Including Question Nos 1339 to 1341)	26 October 2023
Q & A No. 108 (Including Question Nos 1342 to 1342)	27 October 2023
Q & A No. 109 (Including Question Nos 1343 to 1349)	30 October 2023
Q & A No. 110 (Including Question Nos 1350 to 1353)	31 October 2023
Q & A No. 111 (Including Question Nos 1354 to 1359)	1 November 2023
Q & A No. 112 (Including Question Nos 1360 to 1367)	2 November 2023
Q & A No. 113 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 114 (Including Question Nos 1368 to 1391)	6 November 2023
Q & A No. 115 (Questions—Nil)	-

25 SEPTEMBER 2023

(Paper No. 99)

- * 1253 WATER—DAM INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Ms Sue Higginson to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

Can the Minister please advise, in relation to the major flooding in February and March of 2022:

- (1) How many homes were flooded in the Lismore City Council area?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (2) How many homes were flooded in the Byron Shire?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (3) How many homes were flooded in the Tweed Shire?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (4) What are the current criteria under the Resilient Homes Program for a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (5) Will the criteria change in future funding tranches for the Resilient Homes Program?
 - (a) If yes, what data will be used to inform the change?
- (6) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Lismore City Council area requested a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (7) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Byron Shire requested a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (8) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Tweed Shire requested a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (9) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Lismore City Council area have been approved for a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (10) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Byron Shire have been approved for a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?

- (11) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Tweed Shire people have been approved for a house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (12) What is the average estimated cost per house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (13) What is the average actual cost per house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (14) How many flood-impacted houses in the Lismore City Council area were:
- (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?
 - (c) primary homes?
- (15) How many flood-impacted houses in the Byron Shire were:
- (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?
 - (c) primary homes?
- (16) How many flood-impacted houses in the Tweed Shire were:
- (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?
 - (c) primary homes?
- (17) What is the initial and ongoing cost per modular home for the temporary housing program for flood-affected areas in New South Wales?
- (18) What were the flood levels recorded for the two flood events of 2022 in:
- (a) Lismore City Council Area?
 - (b) Byron Shire?
 - (c) Tweed Shore?
- (19) How many homes were flooded in the Lismore City Council area to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (d) 300 millimetre to 399 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (20) How many homes were flooded in the Byron Shire to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?

- (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (d) 300 millimetre to 399 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (21) How many homes were flooded in the Byron Shire to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (d) 300 millimetre to 399 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (22) How many of these flooded premises by suburb are subject to applications for assistance to better withstand future flooding under the Resilient Homes Program?
- (a) How many would have been approved in the Lismore City Council area by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?
 - (b) How many would have been approved in the Byron Shire by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?
 - (c) How many would have been approved in the Tweed Shire area by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?

Answer—

I am advised:

These questions are matters for the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and the Minister for Emergency Services.

- * 1254 EMERGENCY SERVICES—DAM INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Ms Sue Higginson to ask the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism representing the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

Can the Minister please advise, in relation to the major flooding in February and March of 2022:

- (1) How many homes were flooded in the Lismore City Council area?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (2) How many homes were flooded in the Byron Shire?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (3) How many homes were flooded in the Tweed Shire?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (4) What are the current criteria under the Resilient Homes Program for a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (5) Will the criteria change in future funding tranches for the Resilient Homes Program?
 - (a) If yes, what data will be used to inform the change?
- (6) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Lismore City Council area requested a house:

- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (7) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Byron Shire requested a house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (8) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Tweed Shire requested a house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (9) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Lismore City Council area have been approved for a house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (10) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Byron Shire have been approved for a house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (11) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Tweed Shire people have been approved for a house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (12) What is the average estimated cost per house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (13) What is the average actual cost per house:
- (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (14) How many flood-impacted houses in the Lismore City Council area were:
- (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?
 - (c) primary homes?
- (15) How many flood-impacted houses in the Byron Shire were:
- (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?

- (c) primary homes?
- (16) How many flood-impacted houses in the Tweed Shire were:
- (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?
 - (c) primary homes?
- (17) What is the initial and ongoing cost per modular home for the temporary housing program for flood-affected areas in New South Wales?
- (18) What were the flood levels recorded for the two flood events of 2022 in:
- (a) Lismore City Council Area?
 - (b) Byron Shire?
 - (c) Tweed Shire?
- (19) How many homes were flooded in the Lismore City Council area to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (d) 300 millimetre to 399 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (20) How many homes were flooded in the Byron Shire to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (d) 300 millimetre to 399 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (21) How many homes were flooded in the Tweed Shire to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (d) 300 millimetre to 399 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (22) How many of these flooded premises by suburb are subject to applications for assistance to better withstand future flooding under the Resilient Homes Program?
- (a) How many would have been approved in the Lismore City Council area by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?
 - (b) How many would have been approved in the Byron Shire by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?
 - (c) How many would have been approved in the Tweed Shire area by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?

Answer—

I am advised that:

(1) 1585

(a) The number of homes flooded in each suburb of the Lismore City Council area is as follows:

SUBURB	
CORAKI	10
NORTH WOODBURN	36
EAST LISMORE	203
WYRALLAH	8
SOUTH GUNDURIMBA	16
LISMORE	285
MONALTRIE	14
KILGIN	1
RUTHVEN	10
BROADWATER	0
EAST CORAKI	9
SOUTH LISMORE	524
LOFTVILLE	17
GIRARDS HILL	155
NORTH LISMORE	220
RICHMOND HILL	2
STONY CHUTE	0
TATHAM	1
WOODLAWN	0
DUNGARUBBA	2
MCKEES HILL	0
TUCKI TUCKI	10
TUNCESTER	7
BOOERIE CREEK	6
LISMORE HEIGHTS	4
FERNSIDE	0
HOWARDS GRASS	0
LAGOON GRASS	3
BOAT HARBOUR	1
BEXHILL	26
MAROM CREEK	4
BUCKENDOON	7
GREEN FOREST	2
TUCKURIMBA	1
MCLEANS RIDGES	1
NIMBIN	0
TOTAL	1585

(2) 817

(a) The number of homes flooded in each suburb of the Byron City Council is as follows:

SUBURB	
MULLUMBIMBY	468
NEW BRIGHTON	10
SOUTH GOLDEN BEACH	183
OCEAN SHORES	122
MULLUMBIMBY CREEK	0
WILSONS CREEK	1
UPPER WILSONS CREEK	2
MAIN ARM	0
PALMWOODS	0
BRUNSWICK HEADS	26
UPPER MAIN ARM	0
HUONBROOK	0

WANGANUI	0
BANGALOW	0
FEDERAL	0
BYRON BAY	5
TYAGARAH	0
TOTAL	817

(3) 1648

(a) The number of homes flooded in each suburb of the Tweed Shire is as follows:

SUBURB	
MURWILLUMBAH	219
SOUTH MURWILLUMBAH	212
TUMBULGUM	119
CHINDERAH\	587
CONDONG	77
TYGALGAH	42
BRAY PARK	34
NORTH TUMBULGUM	11
EVIRON	8
UKI	12
NUNDERI	6
FINGAL HEAD	34
DULGUIGAN	7
TWEED HEADS SOUTH	2
BANORA POINT	29
HASTINGS POINT	0
POTTSVILLE	75
KINGSCLIFF	23
WOYUNG	12
BOGANGAR	45
TWEED HEADS WEST	39
BILAMBIL HEIGHTS	0
COBAKI	0
BILAMBIL	0
COBAKI LAKES	0
TERRANO RA	0
CRABBES CREEK	1
UPPER BARRINGBAR	4
BARRINGBAR	37
MOOBALL	11
CHILLINGHAM	2
TERRAGON	0
TOTAL	1648

- (4) This information is publicly available at the Resilient Homes Program website.
- (5) Any changes will be determined by future decisions of the NSW Government.
- (6) Participants in the Program are prioritised based on whether they are in a location that has significant risk to life to warrant a voluntary buyback. In significantly lower risk locations, participants are prioritised for home raising or retrofit to reduce economic and social impacts from smaller scale flood events. There have been 2685 program registrations in total within the Lismore City Council area as at 29 September 2023.
- (7) Participants in the Program are prioritised based on whether they are in a location that has significant risk to life to warrant a voluntary buyback. In significantly lower risk locations, participants are prioritised for home raising or retrofit to reduce economic and social impacts from smaller scale flood events. There have been 977 program registrations in total within the Byron Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023.

- (8) Participants in the Program are prioritised based on whether they are in a location that has significant risk to life to warrant a voluntary buyback. In significantly lower risk locations, participants are prioritised for home raising or retrofit to reduce economic and social impacts from smaller scale flood events. There have been 1,339 program registrations in total within the Tweed Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023.
- (9)
- (a) 440 buyback offers have been approved for homeowners in the Lismore City Council area as at 29 September 2023
 - (b) Nil as at 29 September 2023
 - (c) Nil as at 29 September 2023.
- (10)
- (a) 4 buyback offers have been approved for homeowners in the Byron Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023
 - (b) Nil as at 29 September 2023
 - (c) Nil as at 29 September 2023.
- (11)
- (a) 117 buyback offers have been approved for homeowners the Tweed Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023
 - (b) Nil as at 29 September 2023
 - (c) Nil as at 29 September 2023.
- (12)
- (a) \$600,000 for each house buyback
 - (b) \$100,000 for each house raising
 - (c) \$50,000 for each house retrofit.
- (13)
- (a) \$583,567 as at 29 September 2023
 - (b) No home raisings have been completed by 29 September 2023
 - (c) No home retrofits have been completed by 29 September 2023.
- (14) This information is not available to the NSW Reconstruction Authority.
- (15) This information is not available to the NSW Reconstruction Authority.
- (16) This information is not available to the NSW Reconstruction Authority.
- (17) Various pod styles, sizes, providers and contractors have been used across flood- affected areas in New South Wales. These pods have been established in both village and private property style programs. Establishment and ongoing costs vary greatly over location and time, and an average cost is unable to be calculated.
- (18) This information is publicly available at the National Emergency Management Agency website.
- (19)

***WATER LEVEL* Number of homes flooded in Lismore City Council**

<i>1mm - 5mm</i>	52
<i>5mm-300mm</i>	87
<i>300mm - 1500mm</i>	305
<i>1500-2400mm</i>	759
<i>>2400mm</i>	295
<i>Not noted</i>	87
TOTAL	1585

(20)

WATER LEVEL Number of homes flooded in Byron Shire

<i>1mm - 5mm</i>	157
<i>5mm-300mm</i>	408
<i>300mm - 1500mm</i>	188
<i>1500-2400mm</i>	8
<i>>2400mm</i>	2
<i>Not noted</i>	54
TOTAL	817

(21)

WATER LEVEL Number of homes flooded in the Tweed Shire Council

<i>1mm - 5mm</i>	138
<i>5mm-300mm</i>	417
<i>300mm - 1500mm</i>	494
<i>1500-2400mm</i>	115
<i>>2400mm</i>	21
<i>Not noted</i>	463
TOTAL	1648

(22)

- (a) There have been 2685 registrations for the Resilient Homes Program in the Lismore City Council area as at 29 September 2023. A precondition of registration for the program requires that the home was impacted by the 2022 floods. Consequently, all 2685 registered homeowners would qualify for assistance under the program if the criteria for assistance was changed to only reflect impacts from the 2022 event.
- (b) There have been 977 registrations for the Resilient Homes Program in the Byron Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023. A precondition of registration for the program requires that the home was impacted by the 2022 floods. Consequently, all 977 registered homeowners would qualify for assistance under the program if the criteria for assistance was changed to only reflect impacts from the 2022 event.
- (c) There have been 1339 registrations for the Resilient Homes program in the Tweed Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023. A precondition of registration for the program requires that the home was impacted by the 2022 floods. Consequently, all 1339 registered homeowners would qualify for assistance under the Program if the criteria for assistance was changed to only reflect impacts from the 2022 event.

* 1255 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—DAM INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Ms Sue Higginson to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

Can the Minister please advise, in relation to the major flooding in February and March of 2022:

- (1) How many homes were flooded in the Lismore City Council area?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (2) How many homes were flooded in the Byron Shire?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (3) How many homes were flooded in the Tweed Shire?
 - (a) Specifically, how many homes were flooded in each suburb in the area?
- (4) What are the current criteria under the Resilient Homes Program for a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?

- (5) Will the criteria change in future funding tranches for the Resilient Homes Program?
 - (a) If yes, what data will be used to inform the change?
- (6) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Lismore City Council area requested a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (7) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Byron Shire requested a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (8) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Tweed Shire requested a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (9) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Lismore City Council area have been approved for a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (10) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Byron Shire have been approved for a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (11) How many flood-impacted homeowners in the Tweed Shire people have been approved for a house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (12) What is the average estimated cost per house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (13) What is the average actual cost per house:
 - (a) buyback?
 - (b) raising?
 - (c) retrofit?
- (14) How many flood-impacted houses in the Lismore City Council area were:
 - (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?
 - (c) primary homes?

- (15) How many flood-impacted houses in the Byron Shire were:
- (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?
 - (c) primary homes?
- (16) How many flood-impacted houses in the Tweed Shire were:
- (a) uninsured
 - (b) rentals?
 - (c) primary homes?
- (17) What is the initial and ongoing cost per modular home for the temporary housing program for flood-affected areas in New South Wales?
- (18) What were the flood levels recorded for the two flood events of 2022 in:
- (a) Lismore City Council Area?
 - (b) Byron Shire?
 - (c) Tweed Shore?
- (19) How many homes were flooded in the Lismore City Council area to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
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 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (20) How many homes were flooded in the Byron Shire to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (d) 300 millimetre to 399 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (21) How many homes were flooded in the Tweed Shire to the level of:
- (a) 1 millimetre to 99 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (b) 100 millimetre to 199 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (c) 200 millimetre to 299 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (d) 300 millimetre to 399 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
 - (e) 400 millimetre to 499 millimetre depth above their approved and or actual floor levels?
- (22) How many of these flooded premises by suburb are subject to applications for assistance to better withstand future flooding under the Resilient Homes Program?
- (a) How many would have been approved in the Lismore City Council area by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?
 - (b) How many would have been approved in the Byron Shire by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?

- (c) How many would have been approved in the Tweed Shire area by suburb, if the eligibility criterion was changed from having to be below 100 millimetres, above the 2020 published 1-in-20-year flood level, to what flooded in 2022?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This a question for the Minister for Emergency Services.
- (2) This a question for the Minister for Emergency Services.
- (3) This a question for the Minister for Emergency Services.
- (4) This information is publicly available at the Resilient Homes Program website.
- (5) Any changes will be determined by future decisions of the NSW Government.
- (6) Participants in the Program are prioritised based on whether they are in a location that has significant risk to life to warrant a voluntary buyback. In significantly lower risk locations, participants are prioritised for home raising or retrofit to reduce economic and social impacts from smaller scale flood events. There have been 2685 program registrations in total within the Lismore City Council area as at 29 September 2023.
- (7) Participants in the Program are prioritised based on whether they are in a location that has significant risk to life to warrant a voluntary buyback. In significantly lower risk locations, participants are prioritised for home raising or retrofit to reduce economic and social impacts from smaller scale flood events. There have been 977 program registrations in total within the Byron Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023.
- (8) Participants in the Program are prioritised based on whether they are in a location that has significant risk to life to warrant a voluntary buyback. In significantly lower risk locations, participants are prioritised for home raising or retrofit to reduce economic and social impacts from smaller scale flood events. There have been 1,339 program registrations in total within the Tweed Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023.
- (9)
 - (a) 440 buyback offers have been approved for homeowners in the Lismore City Council area as at 29 September 2023
 - (b) Nil as at 29 September 2023
 - (c) Nil as at 29 September 2023.
- (10)
 - (a) 4 buyback offers have been approved for homeowners in the Byron Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023
 - (b) Nil as at 29 September 2023
 - (c) Nil as at 29 September 2023.
- (11)
 - (a) 117 buyback offers have been approved for homeowners Council area as at 29 September 2023 in the Tweed Shire
 - (b) Nil as at 29 September 2023
 - (c) Nil as at 29 September 2023.
- (12)
 - (a) \$600,000 for each house buyback
 - (b) \$100,000 for each house raising
 - (c) \$50,000 for each house retrofit.
- (13)

- (a) \$583,567 as at 29 September 2023
- (b) No home raisings have been completed by 29 September 2023
- (c) No home retrofits have been completed by 29 September 2023.
- (14) This information is not available to the NSW Reconstruction Authority.
- (15) This information is not available to the NSW Reconstruction Authority.
- (16) This information is not available to the NSW Reconstruction Authority.
- (17) Various pod styles, sizes, providers and contractors have been used across flood-affected areas in New South Wales. These pods have been established in both village and private property style programs. Establishment and ongoing costs vary greatly over location and time, and an average cost is unable to be calculated.
- (18) This information is publicly available at the National Emergency Management Agency website.
- (19) This a question for the Minister for Emergency Services.
- (20) This a question for the Minister for Emergency Services.
- (21) This a question for the Minister for Emergency Services.
- (22)
 - (a) There have been 2685 registrations for the Resilient Homes Program in the Lismore City Council area as at 29 September 2023. A precondition of registration for the program requires that the home was impacted by the 2022 floods. Consequently, all 2685 registered homeowners would qualify for assistance under the Program if the criteria for assistance was changed to only reflect impacts from the in the 2022 event.
 - (b) There have been 977 registrations for the Resilient Homes Program in the Byron Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023. A precondition of registration for the program requires that the home was impacted by the 2022 floods. Consequently, all 977 registered homeowners would qualify for assistance under the Program if the criteria for assistance was changed to only reflect impacts from the in the 2022 event.
 - (c) There have been 1339 registrations for the Resilient Homes Program in the Tweed Shire Council area as at 29 September 2023. A precondition of registration for the program requires that the home was impacted by the 2022 floods. Consequently, all 1339 registered homeowners would qualify for assistance under the Program if the criteria for assistance was changed to only reflect impacts from the in the 2022 event.

* 1256 FINANCE—COMPREHENSIVE EXPENDITURE REVIEW—The Hon. Damien Tudehope to ask the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Natural Resources—

Can the Minister please advise:

- (1) Noting that according to Budget paper No.1 for the Budget 2023-24, "the Comprehensive Expenditure Review has identified \$13 billion in budget improvement and reprioritisation measures over the five years to 2026-27", what contribution in the budget improvement is being attributed to each of these "measures implemented" following the expenditure review?:
 - (a) reducing labour hire expenditure?
 - (b) reducing spending on consultants?
 - (c) cutting spending on advertising?
 - (d) reducing travel costs across government?
 - (e) reducing legal expenses?
 - (f) reducing the number of senior executives across the public sector?
 - (g) freezing levels of pay for Members of Parliament and public sector senior executives?
 - (h) agency operational, procurement and corporate efficiencies?

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- (i) reprioritisation of unallocated funds from each of these grant programs:
- (i) Restart?
 - (ii) Regional Growth Funds?
 - (iii) Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund?
 - (iv) WestInvest?
 - (v) Future Economy Fund?
 - (vi) Coal Innovation Fund?
 - (vii) other grant programs (please breakdown by program)?
- (2) Noting that according to Budget paper No.1 for the Budget 2023-24, \$13 billion is “being directed to priority investments to support rebuilding essential services and the provision of further cost-of-living relief”, how much of the \$13 billion is being directed to pay for:
- (a) the 4.5 per cent pay rise for 400,000 public servants, totalling \$2.5 billion?
 - (b) the \$1.9 billion additional boost to teacher pay?
 - (c) salary packaging for health workers?
 - (d) the \$3502 pay rise for health workers?
 - (e) cost-of-living measures (please breakdown by measure)?

Answer—

The Comprehensive Expenditure Review program undertook a methodical review of all government spending to identify budget improvement measures that support NSW families and rebuild our essential services.

This review was necessary to offset the significant fiscal pressures that the Minns Labor Government inherited and to return the State to a sustainable operating and debt position.

The budget improvement and reprioritisation measures, which totalled \$13 billion, are presented at a high level within the 2023-24 Budget Statement (Appendix AS), in-line with previous budget papers.

* 1257 LANDS AND PROPERTY—MACQUARIE STREET EAST PRECINCT MASTER PLAN—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Can the please Minister advise, does the Government plan to budget for the implementation of the Macquarie Street East Precinct Master Plan?
- (2) What exact dollar figure does the Government plan to provision for the implementation of the Master Plan in each of the following financial years:
 - (a) 2023 - 2024?
 - (b) 2024 - 2025?
 - (c) 2025 - 2026?
 - (d) 2026 - 2027?

Answer—

I am advised:

Budget figures for the Macquarie Street East Precinct Master Plan are publicly available in the 2023-24 NSW Budget papers, which can be found at <https://www.budget.nsw.gov.au/2023-24/budget-papers>

* 1258 CLIMATE CHANGE—GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND TAX CONCESSIONS FOR HYDROGEN ENERGY PURPOSES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister please advise, over the past four years, what grants has the Government paid to organisation and/or companies for hydrogen energy purposes (including research)?
- (a) In each case, which organisation and/or companies have received funding and how much?
- (2) Over the past four years, what tax concessions has the Government paid to organisations and/or companies for hydrogen energy purposes (including research)?
- (a) In each case, which organisation and/or companies have received funding and how much?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government has paid grants to five (5) companies for hydrogen energy purposes (including research).
- (a) As of 3 October 2023, the grants paid are:

Company	Total amount of grant awarded (excl. GST)	Amount paid to date (excl. GST)	Grant Program	Location of project
Hiringa Sundown Project Co. Pty Ltd	\$35,831,040	\$2,887,540	Hydrogen Hubs Initiative	Moree Plains
Hysata Pty Ltd	\$1,500,000	\$600,000	Clean Technology Innovation	Port Kembla
Rux Energy Pty Ltd	\$1,833,651	\$167,596	Clean Technology Innovation	Sydney
Quickstep Technologies	\$803,968	\$482,380	Clean Technology Innovation	Bankstown
LAVO	\$5,000,000	\$3,500,000	Regional Job Creation Fund	Tomago
BOC*	\$28,500,000	\$0	Hydrogen Hubs Initiative	Port Kembla
Origin Future Fuels*	\$45,000,000	\$0	Hydrogen Hubs Initiative	Kooragang Island

* Grant agreements have been signed with BOC and Origin Future Fuels, however the first milestone payments for these projects are not yet due.

- (2) The NSW Government has paid no tax concessions to organisations and/or companies for hydrogen energy purposes (including research).
- (a) Not applicable.

17 OCTOBER 2023

(Paper No. 115)

Nil Questions submitted.

David Blunt AM
Clerk of the Parliaments

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales